

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-5 and 8-11 remain pending in the present application. Claim 2 has been cancelled. Claim 1 has been amended. Claims 10 and 11 are new. Basis for the amendments and new claims can be found throughout the specification, claims and drawings originally filed.

CLAIM OBJECTIONS

Claim 1 is objected to because in line 8, the limitation, "said outer metal" should be changed to "said outer member". Claim 1 has been amended to overcome the objection. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. The claims have been amended to overcome the rejection. Reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Wallace, et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 3,369,802) (Wallace). The limitations of Claim 2 have been incorporated into Claim 1 as well as the limitation that the low friction material is separate from the elastomeric material. Wallace discloses a low friction material (silicone) as pointed out by the Examiner but this low friction material is the same as the

elastomeric material 50. As pointed out by the Examiner, column 2, line 31 states that elastomer 50 could be silicone rubber. Therefore, Wallace does not disclose, teach or suggest a low friction material separate from the elastomeric material as is now defined in amended Claim 1. Thus, Applicant believes Claim 1, as amended, patentably distinguishes over the art of record. Likewise, Claims 3-5 which ultimately depend from Claim 1 are also believed to patentably distinguish over the art of record. Claim 2 has been cancelled. Reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Carlson, (U.S. Pat. No. 3,368,697). Carlson, similar to Wallace, discloses an elastomeric member 104 such as silicone rubber (column 3, line 35). Therefore, Carlson, just like Wallace, fails to disclose, teach or suggest a low friction material separate from the elastomeric material as is now defined in amended Claim 1. Thus, Applicant believes Claim 1, as amended, patentably distinguishes over the art of record. Likewise, Claims 3-5 which ultimately depend from Claim 1 are also believed to patentably distinguish over the art of record. Reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Chartet (U.S. Pat. No. 3,219,305). Claims 1, 3 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Tuck, et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 2,553,689). Claims 1 and 3-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Bajer (U.S. Pat. No. 3,181,850). Claim 2 was not rejected based upon either Chartet, Tuck and Bajer. Thus, Applicant believes that the incorporation of Claim 2 into Claim 1 overcomes these rejections. Reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

NEW CLAIMS

Claims 10 and 11 are dependent claims depending from Claim 1 and are thus believed to be allowable. Applicant believes Claims 10 and 11 read on the elected species.

REJOINDER

Applicant respectfully requests rejoinder of Claims 8 and 9.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.



Respectfully submitted,

By: 

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